

A Thriving Postoffice Family

The Wise Men of Gotham; Who and What They Were

By S. BARING-GOULD

cucumbers, which were to be put in vials

years more he would be able to supply the

Governor's garden with sunshine at a

into gunpowder, who likewise showed me

a treatise he had written on the malleabil-

who had contrived a new method of build-

There was a most ingenious architect

"Then was a man born blind, who had

several apprentices in his own condition;

painters, which their master taught them

to distinguish by feeling and smelling. This

artist is much encouraged and esteemed

"In another apartment I was highly

pleased with a projector, who had found a

of ground you bury at six inches distance

and eight deep a quantity of acorns. Then

you drive six hundred of these animals

into the field, when in a few days they will

root up the whole ground in search of their

"I went into another room where the

walls and ceiling were hung round with

cobwebs. The projector here lamented the

plenty of domestic insects who infinitely

excelled the former, because they under-

weathercock on the townhouse, by adjust-

had learned to swim; and of another, who,

desiring to sell his house, carried about a

brick from it in his pocket as a specimen

The French regard the Gascons as both

fools and braggarts, and have many tales

about the Swabians. But the nearest ap-

proach to the story of the Wise Men of

they were in demand throughout Europe

to act as ministers to the kings and princes

and to occupy all government offices. This

these wrote a petition to their husbands to

return and then persuaded them to culti-

vate their own fields and town politics

solved that they must have a town hall.

cut down timber. As a good many logs

rolled to the bottom, they went down and

rolled them up again, so that all the felled

As the town hall proved cold, the Schild-

burgers passed a resolution nem. con. to

have a large stove. This was procured,

but as it would take too much room within

it was erected outside, and a trapper was

employed to set his nets before the stove

On account of the wars, salt proved a

scarce and expensive commodity, so the

corporation went to see the crop and report

on it. They tasted the herbs and stung

their lips and tongues, and returned to an-

As at Gothan, so at Schildburg, the King

announced his intention of paying the

place a visit. A most loyal welcome was

drawn up, in rhyme, which the mayor was

But when the King arrived and the cor-

poration in their robes went forth to re-

ceive him, the mayor deemed it his duty

hands for applause, he held his hat in

"You Schildburgers, as through your

The mayor ought to have responded in

"Your Majesty, the mayor's an ass! an

The Sovereign was so satisfied that the

"That's just where I've come from," was the rejoinder, "and I have come to show

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Hear!" and others clapping their hands.

deliver it to the city council within.

nary strength and excellent quality.

The King said:

town we pass-"

sweep velled out:

trees might roll together down.

of what his house was.

great states.

food, and make it fit for sowing.

stood how to weave as well as spin.

ity of fire, which he intended to publish.

working downwards to the foundation.

by the whole fraternity.

the credit of producing the great- and hermetically sealed and let out to est fools in England, is hard to warm the air in raw, inclement summers. discover, for the popular tale to account for Gotham as a tentative explanation of a generally received opinion.

proverb, and the nursery rhyme concern-

Three wise men of Gotham If that bowl had been stronger, My story had been longer.

Gotham is not by the sea; it is very far

The popular story to account for Gotham

a deputation to the King to say that there was no way through Gotham to Notting-

Gotham people replied that there were no men among them, and certainly no money.

Highly incensed at their proceedings, King John sent to inquire the reason of this incivility, with the intention of chastising

The Gothamites, made aware of the aplous to escape the consequences of the monarch's displeasure as they had been to evade having him pass through their lands or obtain supplies of them.

We are not told how they deliberated, but consult they did, and agreed on a course of action calculated to exculpate them in the King's eyes. When the royal found some of the inhabitants laboring to eel in a pond; some were dragcarts and wains laden with tiles to the top of a barn, because the barn had to be roofed and it would save trouble means all the tiles would be up at once instead of in install-Gothamites were rolling cheeses down a hill in expectation that they Some, again, were engaged in nedging in a cuckoo, which had perched on a bush, because they desired to retain the bird with them throughout the year. And, indeed, about a mile south of Gotham stands a bush to this day that goes by the light they must take it off again name of "Cuckoo Bush," which is supposed This they did, but the winter rains came the big open ditch. I always liked that to be the very bush in question, or one

planted on its site. When the King's officers arrived, and saw | council house. Some attempted to do this so satisfied that they were fools that they they were unworthy of his notice, incapable of rendering him any service, and beneath

They, of course, had outwitted the King, and though pronounced to be fools they were wise in their fooling. The story is very old. In the reign of

Henry VIII was published "The Merry Tales of the Mad Men of Gotham." Old Fuller, commenting on the story says: "Gotham doth breed as wise people as any which causelessly laugh at their sim-But they have had other defenders beside Fuller. A poet wrote:

Teil me no more of Gotham fools,
Or of their eels, in little pools,
Which they, we're told, were drowning;
Nor of their carts drawn up on high,
When King John's men were standing by,
To keep a wood from browning.

Nor of their cheese show'd down a hill, Nor of the cuckoo sitting still. While it they hedged around; Such tales as those have long been told. By prating boobies young and old.

In drunken circles crowned. The fools are those who hither go To see the Cuckoo Bush, I trow, The wood, the barn, the pools: For such are seen both here and there, And passed by without a sneer, By all but arrant fools.

But according to Mr. Mark Antony, Lower Sussex was the county of the Gothamites. Gotham is a little place, not a parish, near Pevensey, and many traditionary anecdotes are still current in Sussex respecting the stupidity of its people. On one occasion the mayor, having received a letter, was reading it upside down; the messenger very respectfully suggested that its contents by reversing its position. "Hold your tongue, sir," replied the chief magistrate; "for while I am mayor of ass!" and all the councilors and the mayor Pevensey I'll hold the letter which end himself applauded, some shouting "Hear!

Surely Shakspeare must have had the Gothamites in his mind's eye when he Schildburgers were all fools that he ex- jury they can from behind their official po- ingly toward the house. Not only was the Watchmen, those shallow and incredible taxes. blunderers, who yet with their folly discover what was not seen by the eyes of that of the Men of Gotham, but it is obwise men. "Dost thou not suspect my vious that both derive from a common vously on his knees-"I suppose, ma, I O, that he were here to write me downan ass! But, master, remember that I am little place in Nottinghamshire must re- to move to town, but somehow I don't an ass! though it be not written down, yet main a puzzle. That the Gotham folk are seem to see as much in it as they made to the small farmers who constituted the forget not that I am an ass.' Surely also Swift must have had a remi-

Gotham when, in "A Voyage to Laputa," but without stirrups. he describes an island materially fertile rendered desolate because made the field tered him. "Saddle and no stirrups! you nothing and be happy. I never saw any for the experiments of the professors of must be a Gotham man. the Academy of Sciences of Laputa. Gulliver is represented as visiting the

"I was very kindly received by the things that the fools outside regard as you had to paddle for it. Idleness is the remaining alfalfa. On the tiny Mor- been fooled first and worst, posed at its warden. Every room had in it one or more projectors; and I believe I could not be

Interesting Family of Government Dogs at New Federal Building

Nine Young Water Spaniels, Their Mother and Three Other Dogs Have Chosen the Postoffice as Their Home...One of These Animals Serves as a Mascot for the Workmen

are continually under one's feet; and it is

These puppies have the distinction of be-

'Number Seven," or just plain "Seven," rounds over the building. She the lucky number they would always have | ment. the best of fortune in the construction of the building. Strange to say, remarkably building is a dog fancier, and the strange the federal building.

which surrounds the new federal | and the colored employes, who are super- owned has its own particular duties to perbuilding from the office the first cause of the luck. She carries her name erty of H. G. Bodwell, is called Spike Henthings that arrest his attention are nine water spaniel puppies, "Seven" is a very smart beast and is

only a few weeks old. The visitor cannot known as a clown dog. She sits on the the two dogs, and Spike shows much of the igar. When she is doing this trick it ap-The people who come to visit the building | er she sits up five minutes or an hour. She as they do in the building itself, for it is look as if she were laughing. "Seven" is really a hard matter to walk, since they like a great many people, in that she is always chasing shadows. Her shadows are, however, real. Whenever the sun casts a impossible to keep from noticing them. shadow she tries to pick it up, and in doing They are not old enough to know what fear ! this she will buck in the air in a way that A LADDER-CLIMBING DOG.

"Seven" and her puppies are not the only ing the first living things to see daylight | dogs owned at the building, for there are at the new government building. It would three others. The next one is Federal not be a bad idea to keep one of them to Belle, a large, long-haired, good-natured first prizes, and the second that he got at raise him at the building and let him spend | dog, whose very face shows that she is his entire existence there. In years to above the average in intelligence. Her accome it would be a decided oddity to point | complishments consist in climbing a ladhim out as the dog that was born and der and walking an iron beam five inches The mother of these puppies is known as | Bodwell, the constructing engineer, on his A great many colored men are employed at | death, as skilfully as the most experienced | a messenger boy's uniform and would folthe building, and when this dog came they man. This dog goes about her climbing in demanded that she be called "Seven," an easy, fearless manner, and no matter which is a lucky number in a craps game. What obstacles she meets in her travels while, but the life there was too hum-drum. They insisted that if she were named after she never shows the least sign of excite-

a visitor enters the yard, few accidents have happened to the men, , part of it is, each one of these various dogs that the man would pass over. H. C. Redeker, the bookkeeper at the new

postoffice, owns the only registered dog of the lot. This fellow is a very fine black is, and have been petted, too, to such an extent that they think to pet each one in his the bucking dog.

Would do credit to one of Bullalo Blil's number, however, is not part of the dog's name, but is simply the register number. Fudge has been at the building but a few Fudge has been at the building but a few formula course of things. French poodle called Fudge, No. 78,325. The weeks, having come here from Chicago was in Cincinnati and it was there Mr. Chicago marks the first time that he has ever fallen below first. This dog as yet has not been here long enough to show that there will be no limit to his tricks

ment building that fell from grace is Peggy favorite messenger boys leave, and that

AN obscure village of about in fewer than five hundred rooms. The first ne hundred people, in Nottingman I saw had been eight years upon a project for extracting sunbeams out of curimbers which were to be put in vials. AN obscure village of about in fewer than five hundred rooms. The first of the hundred people, in Nottingproject for extracting sunbeams out of curimbers which were to be put in vials. AN obscure village of about in fewer than five hundred rooms. The first of the hundred people, in Nottingproject for extracting sunbeams out of curimbers which were to be put in vials.



ing houses by beginning at the roof and seem to confine to any into the back yard of the grocery store, coops and empty boxes and barrels.

device of ploughing the ground with hogs, to save the charges of plows, cattle and ing back from the store. labor. The method was this: In an acre "A scissors grinder," she hazarded;

> saw one go past." He shook his head.

"Well, then, one of them thumping street pianos drew by a horse?"

patch of sky in a rainy day. I believe in fatal mistake the world had been so long in of using silkworms, while we had such a i my heart it was the same one that used to to sort 'o know me. Maybe he's gone and hunted us up, do you think?" There was an astronomer who had un-

dertaken to place a sundial upon the great His wife looked at him without replying ing the annual and diurnal motions of the earth and sun, so as to answer and coincide with all accidental turnings of the am does not pertain to Gotham alone, or Lord! how I've missed them since we left | could just drop in most any time. That's only to England. It is found elsewhere. The Greeks considered the Beotians as fools, and their philosopher, Heirocles, wrote a collection of amusing stories making fun of pedants and telling tales that are now "chestnuts," as that of the pedant who was nearly drowned and vowed he in the cottonwood? would not go near the water again till he

"But of all the robins was my favorite,

asserted his wife. concerning them. So have the Germans | hardly get their grips unpacked before The men of Schildburg were so wise that | you would always call my attention to | led to only women being left at home, and | grew before fall. You said South every spring. It used to amuse me and not go forth to direct the affairs of to notice in particular two kinds of birds-

They built their town hall, but when it telling everybody to 'cheese it, cheese it.' was complete found that it was so dark insuddenly at her, "what would I be a-doing | my breath. As for the preacher, I believe | singing 'Rock in a Weary Land'-say, Ma, side that they could not read their protocols and minutes. So they met in consultation if I was on the place to-day? Yes, you do on and they were fain to replace the roof. ditch. The water was so clear and pretty They again consulted and determined to and it was forever singing a soft little catch sunbeams and force them into the song as it slipped over the pebbles. In the summer wild roses loved to grow on its the Gothamites thus occupied, they were by holding bushels or sacks in the sun, banks and in the marshy places the blackand then running into the hall and empty- eyed susans and the flags. Time and time ing them there, whilst others again set again the neighbors tried to get me to returned to King John and told him that mouse traps wherewith to catch the beams, agree to tile that ditch, but they couldn't and others again attempted to shovel the make it. I wasn't a going to have the old fellow penned up like a city sewer. I con-A traveler passing through suggested sider that water's got its feeling windows. Accordingly they set to work as anything else—country water." sider that water's got its feeling as well to knock holes through the walls, and as | "A cup of boneset tea is what you ought

> require light, each was furnished with a you out of the kinks." She wagged her head knowingly. "It's just too pretty out this morning," went on Branson, choosing to ignore the references to his state of health. "A few days of weather like this will bring up the daffodils and jonquils along our old back walk, won't they?'

> each member of the town-council would to have; that and sassafras would fetch

door to catch the heat as it came out and She nodded cheerfully, "yes and the tulips and bleeding hearts-twon't take long." "I suppose," he remarked casually, jerking his head in an uncertain direction, town council ordered that a field should "you'd a had setting hens by this time be sown with salt that they might have a down there. It was always nip and tuck touches as they please. It is enough to crop next year. In spring all that sprang up between you and the Widow Hatfield, but was sting nettles; and a deputation from the you generally won.

Mrs. Branson smiled proudly. "The dominecker hens is hard to beat, nounce that the crop was one of extraordi- out so early I'd have to raise the chickens in the kitchen.

head sagely, "and no living with them afterwards-so tame. I recall how I hated staring them in the face. I couldn't help but feel like a cannibal after helping to their obligations. Go to their nest when they're setting and they'll frown and shrug their shoulders and look the very picture of offended dignity and peck, but so easy, as much as to say, 'I've got to do this, my friend: I'm a hen, you know.' rhyme, but could not as his mouth was the top-knot breed, phew!-squall and hiss perfunctory there. They mean it, they do. "You'll strike the same two classes way, or else they're top-knots and take a personal delight in inflicting all the inis liked best, and observe, too, which loses The German story is much fuller than its head first.

Dost thou not suspect my years? original. But why the credit of being ought to be ashamed of myself. I know shrewd fools should have adhered to one John and Alice thought it was best for us shrewd fools is a jest never forgotten in out. It's true we don't need to work any bulk of the population, that not every the neighborhood. The other day a man | more, but when a fellow has spent the best old and too well broke to enjoy loafin'. not only paid tithes, they paid them twice the last of these had passed, back came "Halloo!" said a farmer, who encoun- You got to be educated up to it to do man who really wanted to retire but the church authorities, also one-tenth of the fooled! You came away up here for nothman who couldn't afford to. It always chickens hatched from the rest of the eggs. in'. There hain't no fire. seemed to me that life was just like swim- | One tenth of the alfalfa must be paid in, | Apparently, this superb assumption of you that we Gothamites can do without ming upstream, if you ever get any place and also one-tenth of the stock raised on superiority on the part of the one who had

kingdom of heaven. Why, ma, the devil's ness, the shaking hands and the talking in me strong. I haven't been in this town could run it different already. In the first | my buggywhip with me if it pleased me. across the road at fellows, and they don't do it here and I miss it. It seems to me

where he can catch the best hold on him in anything yet to beat it, even if the bass gars. Why, I know half of them by sight. a one is man enough to speak. Now, say to take away a man's teeth and leaves what you please, ma, we haven't got a his heart pure. He hasn't ruined him in my friend in this whole town-a real friend. estimation. After the services, too, there Nobody to drop in for a neighborly chat,

when you're sick. paid anything back, was a good neighbor, some callers that left a batch of cards and wouldn't answer the bell. And I know I a message from the farm; and it came to any effort. We who was brought up in the straight and narrow way don't expect to

in the nature of man to want difficulties in

his path to glory. It runs back to the Pil-

grims who went to church with a Bible in

the persecution and the Indians, and put in a nice warm church just around corner, and half of them Pilgrims would fellow who looked you all over in a languid kind of a way, and then sat you down most any place, and I suppose afterwards colthat fellow until he found some one whose I've got you?' And I could just seem to eyes to the motto on the wall: 'The Lord ciate their singing. A girl gets up and gurgles like she was taking throat medicine "Ma," he said, turning about and looking | repeat it several times, and so do I-under he would sooner lose an immortal soul than | you haven't sung that since we come to break a rule of grammar. There don't town and I'm blessed if you ain't a-crying! seem to be any warmth to the meeting. It just makes me think of a lot of pale po- | word. tato sprouts in a cellar. Lord, give me rain | to go back and I'm only an old fool-what! and growing corn, and a good hot sun, you say you do; you've been holding back throw in some godless weeds, if you will- on my account and I on yours. Lord save they'll be there, anyway-and then send me | us, then, there's 'two fools, and Ma"-he a vigorous man who hoes right and left. stooped and kissed her awkwardly, but That's my religion!

pulpit according to their own ideas of their

"I admired the spirit in which they sang Sister Betty's voice did sound as if she was | worry me? But I can't help it. If you wasn't any hurrying out like trains were and brother went home with brother, and everybody was happy, and a stranger was devil has been a doing for me. And somealongside of the doubts and I didn't know heard that bluebird's song I knew it was nothing in the world but homesickness. want to go back where the sun comes up any coal smudge on his face. Where the birds tell us to get up, instead of factory

"There's no use concealing the fact, I the farm and run my eyes across the wheat field with its long rows of little soldiers in green; to listen to the chickens chuckling and crowing, the guinea fowls a-hollering 'petrark-petrark' and the old gobbler making a sound like pouring pota-

toes into an empty barrel. ing-just make believe, to please me, I'll Rose will be in the lane horning the other the tail, when they've had their share. Yes, times. Next I'll milk. I can smell old tenderly-"Ma, bless God there's no angel "I liked to go to church in Millville, with shining sword to warn us out of our where everybody went and took their whole a fool's paradise!"



Two Feminine Complaints; Flats and Celluloid Clocks

The hostess was a successful busstanding, possessed of a ripe fund of humor, and upon all occasions was stanch upholder of the advantage of liv-

The round face of the visitor was flushed, her forehead corrugated, and her tongue so excessively nimble that her talk was punctured by no more than a laugh or word here and there from the other.

like it, goodness knows. I wouldn't mind without saying a word, that he believes I ceiling down there you know, is this plaster of paris that bubbles and turns down if to know more than to put that kind of a

"Foolish to let a little thing like that tions in its favor. I wish I could.

"You see George told me frankly that I would have to choose between the proverbial cottage and a flat. I thought it over pipes and an elevator ought to outweigh compare experiences with a suburban friend.

"Clara Newcome, you know, Yes, she took the cottage. She says she doesn't see to every single meal. She says bandbox living makes her think of these condensed petizing meal. Me? Oh, I get even. I tell choose between a lawn polka-dotted by treated deal tables and packing boxes. Now handbills and my neighbor's hens, and no lawn, I was glad I had the sense not to hesitate, and, actually, Gertrude was of-

HE was the young woman from the the Aztecs having the keynote in simplified housekeeping and the foolishness of women wearing their lives out with the care of a dozen rooms they don't really need at all. About the no stairs to dust, no dozens of rugs to shake, no lazy maids to oversee "She? Why, she believes every word of it

of doubt in its makeup. Me? No, I don't. I know you'll think it horrid of me, and unreasonable, and all that, but I've either to effervesce or die. Please don't scold dear, but I'm deathly faint when I think o Mr. Brown's ceiling, the second time this and never knowing the luxury of lounging to a meal. I'm glad the old water-pipe did burst, because I'm going to take my fall visit home to mother and the girls while it's being fixed. I want to stretch without being afraid of toppling something down; I want to go out doors in slippers in same thing has happened in six months. the evening. I'm going to have four days Mr. Brown scowled like a brigand at me in of plain, unvarnished, primitive living. I'm the corridor just now. He makes me feel, going where air drafts cease from troubling and elevators are at rest. And Georgeplease don't be angry-but Gertrude told me left the water running from pure careless- | that the dear little house opposite theirs is with the man this morning.

> "It's the same old 'total depravity of inanimate things," said the girl at the desk, as she wiped her pen carefully on the sembling celluloid in this instance. I've grown used to celluloid shell hairpins, celluloid hard rubber combs, celluloid ivory paper-cutters, celluloid amber ornaments, but when Harry (just like a man, brother any way) put his cigar down on the clock and set it to going all over the black onyx top in a sizzling little blue flame, it seemed as if it must be the proverbial last straw. The clock was a dainty, though suspiciously gorgeous, bargain I picked up at a department store, and just the touch of black my desk needed. Of course, the accident called for fright first, speedily followed by embarrassment on my part, to be climaxed by fiery anger against that idiotic brother of mine and his roars of laughter. For, of course, nothing but the humor of the situa-

> "Funny? Of course it was, but for my part I think Nature was just a little too generous when she dealt out the masculine that woman's brain capacity is inferior to man's but her sense of humor is at least tempered with common sense, if you don't

> care to call it tact. "My pretty little nest, my apartments, my 'studio,' if you please, is rather a hobby collector of pretty things, and if taste has to play a more important part than dollars-well. I am not alone. Now, do you suppose, if at one of Harry's and Petronella's 'whists' I should happen to peel the inlay off their card table (and it does peel, because I tried it) I should call attention at the top of my voice to a barefaced woodworker's deceit's

> "I haven't a doubt but that two-thirds of my guests went home from this initial inspection of my bachelor apartments, insignia of my independence, with the idea. firmly fixed in their heads' that my big screen there, pyrography you see, stamped, and my leather cushions that Alice did with her own hands, pressed, and my Navajo collection imitations. They'll set down every blessed little treasure, from poreclain to painting, to the keynote of that nspeakable department-store clock.

'Complain? I haven't even the satisfaction of that left me, don't you see, when the twentieth-century genius for make believe is such a godsend after all. Of course, can turn up their noses. Oh, no: please recipes for new housekeepers for the makthe young housekeeper turns the cold shoulder to point d'esprit, draped near-silk and big bows, and turns her eyes to cheap sales and home pyrography. But that clock? Mercy! I took a secret oath that "Yes, George, the water-pipe burst again. after they all left I should go round to went over to tell Mrs. Stout about it, every doubtful thing in my possession with Sympathy? Not the shadow. She simply a hot curling iron, and anything that sizread me her 'Credo' with codicils. About 'zled-went.



Technical Institute grounds. But

there is no danger that a man of Frederick Law Olmsted's intelligence will destroy the beautiful native trees, and as long as those are left, they may put in such fancy make the angels weep to see how, in some parts of Indianapolis, the exquisite beeches, glorious elms and romantic sycamores have she replied. "Sometimes they would hatch been ruthlessly destroyed, and now they are planting straight rows of commonplace "I remember," said Branson, nodding his poplars along the street, to take the place of the magnificence laboriously cut away. to kill them, just sing and turn their heads | Nor was this all done in the days of ignoron one side to look, even when the ax was ance-there are boys still in short trousers eat one. I love the dominecker kind; cut and the stumps blasted out with dynato take off his hat, and as he required both | they're so gentle in the performance of | mite, on streets and yards now bare of

been preserved with the greatest care-even | had flashed and sparkled as nature inarrogant cement sidewalks being made to tended her to do, she would have been a he would sooner arrive at the meaning of full of the rim of his hat, but a chimney- like a cat and stab like a hornet. Nothing give them the right of way. One handsome residence, made last summer from an old among people. Public servants either do house reconstructed, has a deep niche cut their sworn duty in a gentle dominecker in its wide cornice so as not to interfere with a branch of a great elm leaning lovrepresented Dogberry. Verges and the empted them from paying all dues and sitions. Just you take notice which kind tree preserved intact by this device, but a charming architectural effect was pro- step out of the backdoor for a handful of "I suppose"-the old man drummed ner- duced.

There was one shrewd touch in the Morover. One-tenth of the eggs went to the with his brother, and pick larger than a city lot, these things must wearily homeward without a word.

T DOES seem a little like an at- have counted heavily. The church's contempt to "gild refined gold and trol of the irrigation works gave it absolute power over the farmer. If he failed paint the lily," to try to beautify to pay his tithes to the uttermost, the the arsenal-beg pardon, the water would be shut off from his fields, which meant starvation.

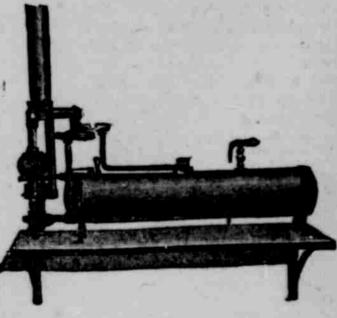
After all, suppose one had the time and the inclination to massage the face daily, pose, to avoid crow's-feet; suppose one should take the pains to hold the mouth I in a pretty position, would it pay? There cent teachers' convention, a pretty brutiously done all these things. She had very transformed her face into a wooden mask. She did not dare to converse with spirit and animation-it would spoil all her elaborate work. Her pretty little mouth had a slightly unnatural set to its lines, that inevitably reminded one of "Mrs. General," It is only justice to add that in other and "prunes, prisms and prunella." she did not look young, either. If she had frankly let herself look thirty-five; if she beautiful and charming woman. As it was, she was positively repellent.

The hose-cart went tearing up the street: after it raced the boys on their bicycles. One of them was bareheaded. Doubtless it would have been impossible for him to kindling without his cap, but this was another matter. Behind the boys on wheels ran a procession of boys on foot. Those were running fast; those who had already followed the hose-cart for half a mile or so, were panting along in the rear. Just as the first boy on his wheel. "Ho!" he cried, scornfully, "youse kids have all got mighty demoralizing. It makes a man find mon farms, with their fields not much face value. The crestfallen plodders turned

Fool Proof and Fire Proof

Why do you continue paying large light bills? We can save you 50 per cent. of your present light bills and give you

1,000 per cent. more light. These are broad claims, but nevertheless they are facts. We can furnish light any place and as much of it as you want. Call at our store and investigate this wonderful lighting system. Agents for Marion, Johnson, Bartholomew, Jackson, Jennings and Scott counties.



TESTIMONIAL

March 1, 1904. Messrs. Watson & Co., City: Dear Sirs-Replying to your query as to whether I am pleased with the F. P. lighting system which you installed for me fifteen months ago, I will say that it has never given us one minute's trouble nor one dollar's expense. It gives the best light I ever saw for interior use. The actinic rays are of such a character as to make it very desirable when the perfectly natural colors of objects are to be distinguished without confusion As to cost of maintenance, I think that my experience, based upon close ob-

servation, will warrant the statement that it is under \$80 per annum, and our store is open every day in the year until 11 o'clock p. m., except on Sunday, one hour less. Under the same conditions, and with the most approved facilities for the distribution of light, our bills for illuminating gas were about \$200 per year, and for electric light (arcs) about \$400 to \$420 per annum, and at no time have we had more than one-half the light we now have. I am particularly pleased with the light, and the fact that it is so economical makes it the more desirable. As you can readily figure, I paid for my apparatus and cost of light in about or five months. Yours truly, R. I. EADS.

WATSON & CO.

136 East New York St. and 641-643 Virginia Ave. **NEW PHONE 3822**